In re Patent Application of:

AVRON I. BRYAN, et al

Serial No. 10/676,817

Filing Date: 10/1/2003

Remarks

Applicant and the undersigned would like to thank the Examiner for his efforts in

the examination of this application and for the allowability of claims 2-4 and 9. Claims 1,

and 3-8 remain in the case. New claims 10-15 are added by this amendment.

Claims 1,5, and 8 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by

U.S. Patent No. 6,039,212 to Singh. Claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 USC

§103(a) as being unpatentable over Singh '212 in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,630,773 to

Ortlip. Claims 2-4 and 9 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base

claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations

of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 2.

Claim 2 is cancelled by this amendment. Dependent Claim 3 is amended to depend

from Claim 1. Independent Claim 8 is amended to include the limitations of allowable

Claim 9. Claim 9 is cancelled by this amendment. New Claim 10-15 include the subject

matter of allowable claims 1, and 3-8 rewritten to provide the allowable subject matter in

varying scope.

Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments place this application

in a condition for allowance, and passage to issue is respectfully solicited. The

Applicant and the undersigned would like to again thank the Examiner for his efforts in

the examination of this application and for consideration of the claims now in the case.

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If the further prosecution of the application can be facilitated through telephone interview between the Examiner and the undersigned, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 10⁷¹⁴ day of January, 2005.

Edward Bradley